

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS:

Please amend the specification as indicated:

Please replace paragraph [0005] with the following amended paragraph:

[0005] Vendors currently offer products that ~~provide~~ permit telecommunications to be carried via a VDN such as the Internet. For example, Vonage is a company that uses the Cisco ATA. Features that allow mobile telephone usage over the Internet cannot offer this calling activity with this unit. The Cisco ATA unit is broadband only and does not provide a means to attach to the phone jack in the wall. Without attachment to the wall the Vonage-Cisco unit cannot detect incoming PSTN calls. Without the ability to detect incoming PSTN calls the Vonage-Cisco unit cannot then bridge PSTN callers into the Vonage voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) network.

Please replace paragraph [0006] with the following amended paragraph:

[0006] Packet 8 sells an Internet access device (IAD) (~~DAT310~~DTA310) that is broadband only. The DTA310 provides a single RJ-11 connection for an analog phone. The DTA310 does not provide a means to attach the unit to the phone jack in the wall. Without attachment to the wall the Packet 8 unit cannot detect incoming PSTN calls; without the ability to detect incoming PSTN calls the Packet 8 unit cannot then bridge PSTN callers into the Packet 8VoIP network.

Please replace paragraph [0009] with the following amended paragraph:

[0009] An embodiment of the present invention utilizes a telecommunications gateway (TCG) configured to receive communications from a remote location via a communications device (either ~~from~~ via a PSTN or a wireless network operated by a mobile service provider). The TCG initiates a call from the gateway to a remote communication device over a VDN. In another embodiment of the present invention, the VDN is the Internet and the remote communication device is a telephone (either wired or mobile), but the present invention is not so limited. The TCG functions as a bridge between the incoming calling device and the remote communication

device. In another embodiment of the present invention, the functions of the TCG are performed by equipment operated by the operator of a PSTN.

Please replace paragraph [0021] with the following amended paragraph:

[0021] FIG. 3 illustrates a diagram of a POTS phone call routed through the Internet according to an embodiment of the present invention ~~prior art~~.

Please replace paragraph [0028] with the following amended paragraph:

[0028] FIG. 3 illustrates a diagram of a phone call ~~place~~ placed over the PSTN and routed through the Internet. By way of illustration and not as a limitation, a call is ~~intiated~~ initiated on a telephone 300 to a number associated with a TCG 310. This call is then routed normally to the TCG 310 through the PSTN ~~345~~ 305. The call is authenticated as being from an authorized user. If appropriate signaling is received from the caller, the TCG 310 converts the telephone signal into a bit stream according to an appropriate protocol that is transferable over a VDN 315. In an embodiment of the present invention, the VDN is the Internet. The bit stream comprises proper identifiers and routing indications. In another embodiment of the present invention, the bit stream comprises discrete packets. The converted call is then sent to a final destination 320 via the VDN 315. The path to the final destination may be via another PSTN 305 or another TCG 310.

Please replace paragraph [0034] with the following amended paragraph:

[0034] FIG. 5 illustrates another embodiment of the present invention where the call routing system discussed in reference to FIG. 3 is adapted to permit the call to be ~~rounted~~ routed to a telephone ~~500~~ 520 physically connected to TCG ~~340~~ 510 rather than directed to VDN ~~345~~ 515. This transfer to a ~~telephone~~ telephone 520 physically connected to the TCG ~~340~~ 510 rather than the VDN ~~345~~ 515 may be initiated by a selection on telephone ~~300~~ 500, or a lack of a selection, either when the call is first made or once connection with the TCG ~~340~~ 510 is established. The selection may take a variety of forms such as determining the presence of a long distance

~~designator~~ designator (for example, the # sign) in the telephone number associate with the TCG 310, or not and waiting for an internal timer to note the absence of a "#" sign. However, such dialing notifications may include but not be limited to depressing of a predetermined key, lack of selection of a predetermined key, or the calling of a unique telephone number. Although not illustrated, the call routing system discussed in reference to FIG. 4 may be similarly adapted to ~~directed~~ direct the call from the wireless telephone 400 to a telephone 425 physically ~~connected~~ connected to TCG 415.

Please replace paragraph [0040] with the following amended paragraph:

[0040] FIG. 7 illustrates a block diagram of a PSTN having means for sending a call over a VDN at the direction of a caller in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. A PSTN 715 comprises a switch 720 and a TCG 730. The PSTN 715 receives mobile calls from mobile telephone 700 via mobile communication network 705. The PSTN 715 also receives calls from telephone 710. Calls received by the PSTN are processed by ~~TCG~~ TCG 730 and their destination determined as previously discussed. Calls destined for first communication device [[1]] 725 are passed to switch 720 and the calling party is connected to first communication device [[1]] 725 via the PSTN 715. Calls destined for second communication device [[2]] 740 are passed to VDN 735 and ultimately to second communication device [[2]] 740.

Please replace paragraph [0041] with the following amended paragraph:

[0041] By way of illustration and not as a limitation, telephone 710 places a call to another telephone on the PSTN 715. (In this illustration, first communication device [[1]]725 is such a telephone.) The call is evaluated by TCG 730 and routed through switch 720 ~~in a manner consistent with the prior art~~. Similarly, a call placed by mobile telephone 700 to first communication device [[1]]725 would be routed over the PSTN 715 and through switch 720. By contrast, a caller may designate ~~(using a that the call be transported via VDN 735 to~~ second communication device [[2]]740. ~~Second Communication~~ communication device [[2]]740 may be any device or combination of devices that may be connected to, and receive communications from, VDN 735, including a telephone. (See FIG. 4.) In this embodiment of the present

invention, TCG 730 determines whether a VDN designator is present in the dialed number and, if so, routes the call to the VDN for ultimate delivery to second communication device [[2]] 740.